

## **REMARKS**

### **I. Introduction**

Claims 2-14 are pending in this application. Claims 2-3 and 8 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting over claim 15 of U.S. Patent No. 6,599,325. Claims 4 and 9-14 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but the Office action states that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including an appropriate terminal disclaimer, all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 5-7 stand allowed.

### **II. Double Patenting Rejection of Claims 2-3 and 8**

Claims 2-3 and 8 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting with respect to U.S. Patent No. 6,599,325, from which this application claims priority. A terminal disclaimer with respect to U.S. Patent No. 6,209,010, from which U.S. Patent No. 6,599,325 draws priority, is included herewith along with the requisite fee. This terminal disclaimer overcomes the rejections under the judicially created double patenting doctrine. Accordingly, these claims are now in condition for allowance, and withdrawal of the rejections of record is respectfully requested.

### **III. Objections to Claims 4 and 9-14**

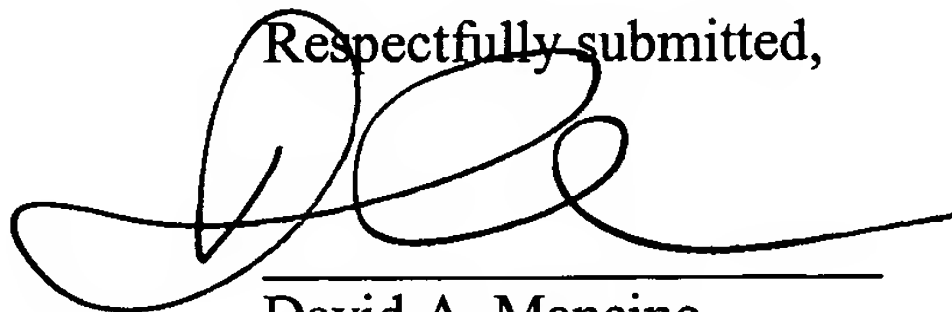
The Office action states that claims 4 and 9-14 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including an appropriate terminal disclaimer, all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Applicant wishes to point out that these claims need not be rewritten in independent form because a terminal disclaimer is being submitted for this application. The terminal disclaimer overcomes the double patenting rejection of the base claims from which claims 4 and 9-14 depend, thus removing the basis for the objection to these claims. Accordingly, claims 4 and 9-14 are now in condition for allowance, and withdrawal of the objections of record is respectfully requested.

**IV. Conclusion**

In light of the foregoing Remarks and the terminal disclaimer submitted herewith, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections and objections of record is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner wishes to discuss any aspect of this response, please contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Mancino', written over a horizontal line.

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